

## Bruggeman leaves lasting imprints on O’Gorman

By Brad Wakefield  
Knightlife Editor

O’Gorman theology teacher Julie Bruggeman died on Nov. 10, leaving students and faculty heartbroken. After nearly a year of fighting, everyone, including herself, had high hopes that the battle against cancer would soon be over.

On Nov. 12, a prayer service was held for all who could not attend the funeral. The school auditorium was nearly full with mourning students, parents and teachers.

Many volunteered to share a memory of Bruggeman including several funny stories from Sister Kathryn Easley and Ms. Jennifer Moser. At one point during the prayer service, principal Mr. Kyle Groos stepped forward and shared several memories also. These memories happened to be from Julie Bruggeman’s Facebook which had received an overwhelming amount of posts from a countless number of people.

Very few were able to share their memory of Mrs. Bruggeman at the prayer service so students took the new idea that their principal had just provided for them and turned back to Facebook.

More comments of remembrance were made and groups were created to share feelings and recollections of the teacher that inspired so many.

Students wrote about her hilarious sarcasm and alumni wrote about her outrageous snort. Julie Bruggeman will definitely live on as one of the most remembered teachers at O’Gorman.

## Magazine sales driven by incentives

*O’Gorman students bring in an unprecedented \$124,000, surpassing goal*

By Tanya Kapoor  
Entertainment Editor

In the entire school year, there is no such event like the magazine drive, which promotes intra school rivalry while raising funds for O’Gorman High School. This year, O’Gorman will profit from selling \$124,008.62.

The magazine drive attracted a huge amount of attention this year since the winner from the past two years, Ms. Teresa Fester, advised freshmen this year.

“I was missing my old advisory because we were the top for two years, and they were a lot of fun,” said Fester. “Then, I remembered what they were like their freshman year. Now, I see the same strengths in my advisory, and I know that in time—we will rise to the top.”

The top three advisories during the magazine drive were Mr. Rick Lynch’s and Ms. Amy Carr’s joint advisory, Mrs. Karin Reed’s and Mrs. Darlene Dunn’s respectively.

In order to achieve such an unprecedented amount of money as a school, the individual

classes needed to achieve their goals as well. According to class, \$26,852 was raised by the freshmen. The sophomores raised \$28,012.37, and the juniors brought in \$39,679.95. The seniors raised \$29,464.30.

To bring in such amounts of money, advisers often offer many incentives. This year was unique in terms of the incentives offered. Mr. Rick Lynch, a junior adviser, promised to buzz his hair at the end of the magazine drive.

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Construction is underway at O’Gorman to bring a new facility to appropriately accommodate students and faculty. Left: A drawn plan for the O’Gorman front entrance along with the Performing Arts Center. Above: A posterior view of the new school along with additional parking.

## Coming soon: a new O’Gorman

By Tanya Kapoor  
and Chris Kappen

The O’Gorman building has always fostered creativity. However, in the following years it will cultivate the ideas of growth and change. With parts of the school already set to be demolished in late December, Fiegen Construction plans to complete the \$24.5 million project, excluding the performing arts center, by the fall of 2009.

The new school will have 45 new classrooms. During the upcoming semester and school year, teachers will share classrooms in G-Wing. Fiegen Construction plans to demolish O-Wing after the current school year.

“Although we are in the midst of construction, we don’t believe that we will use any unusual spaces for classrooms,” said O’Gorman Principal Mr. Kyle Groos.

Even though hallway width

will not increase, the new school building will incorporate six major hallways, as compared to the two used right now.

“As a result, our students will be going six different directions rather than seven hundred coming from two wings,” said Groos.

Starting from Jan. 2008, parking space will be scarce in the main parking lot. The teachers will use some of the main parking lot. To accommodate student parking,

some junior high and neighborhood parking spots will possibly be opened. Carpooling is encouraged during second semester. However, when the performing arts center is completed in the fall of 2010, the school will gain 180 more parking spots.

“What we need to realize is that we are all in this together,” said Groos. “We need to have

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Vicente Fox speaks to journalists before the Boe Forum at an Augustana press conference.

## Vicente Fox offers insight at Boe Forum on Public Affairs

By Ngoc Thach  
Editor-in-Chief

On Nov. 1, former President of Mexico, Vicente Fox and his wife Marta joined the likes of Rudy Giuliani, Al Gore and Colin Powell as they spoke at the Augustana Boe Forum on Public Affairs. Fox touched on issues about his homeland and its economical improvements, but his main message to Americans was quite clear.

“We should be building bridges instead of walls,” said Fox.

There is no doubt that Fox strives to break a tradition of

ignorance amongst Americans and encourage them to push for better administration in immigration policies.

Fox reflects on global democracy, free trade and calls for North American unification.

“We can do it together by associating ourselves - Canada, the United States and Mexico,” said Fox.

Fox also insinuates America’s problems with immigration stem from poor relationships. He states that he doesn’t wish for the United States to open up immigration to all that wish to enter but rather to simply make decisions.



# Letter from the editor

By Ngoc Thach  
Editor-in-Chief



O’Gorman provides a world class education for its students and a place of unification for a close-knit community. The group shares an identity all on its own and if you attend school here then certainly, **you know you’re from O’Gorman when...**

1. You hear “Oh he only got a 33 on the ACT?” tossed around in the hallway.
2. You refer to your calculator as George and room O-20 as Schnell’s world.
3. You expect to walk past unsightly buckets in the hallways after a heavy rainfall or a warm day in spring when all the snow has melted.
4. You have a 3.5 GPA and are in the bottom half of your class.
5. You walk past the blue ribbon meat section in the grocery store and think of Mr. Groos.
6. Students from other schools tell

you that O’Gorman is full of snobby rich kids who drive brand new cars as fond memories of your ’96 Honda spoil in your mind.

7. You need sunglasses when transitioning from the cave-like hallways to the fluorescent in-your-face classrooms.

8. A teacher turns down the heat and the air conditioning turns on... in December.
9. You associate mini corndogs and cheese bread with specific days of the week.
10. Your parents use the dreaded phrase “I’m not paying thousands of dollars for you to get B’s” followed by the classic “Do you want to go to a *different* school?” after a less than acceptable report card.
11. You refuse to wear khakis or polos outside of school hours.
12. You learn that prayers don’t always turn out the way you want them to, but it all works out in the end. Example: O’Gorman football 2007... wait that was a bad example.

# Merry Christmas! from the Knight Scroll Staff



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## Letters to the editor

All letters should be short and concise. The writer should include a name and contact information. All letters are subject to editing for grammar, conventions and length.

## Editorial Policy

All editorials are the sole opinion of the writer and do not necessarily represent the beliefs of the O’Gorman faculty, administration or the *Knight Scroll*.

# O’Gorman fun find

R	A	Z	C	L	Y	N	O	R	T	G	A	E	E	P	C	F
K	Q	R	K	O	N	T	E	C	E	A	V	Z	Y	R	A	A
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ALGEBRA  
COORDINATE  
DUNN  
FUNCTION  
LIMITS  
MCQUADE  
PYTHAGOREAN  
CALCULUS  
COSINE  
FACTOR

GEOMETRY  
LINDEMANN  
PRECALCULUS  
RICHTER  
CINCO  
DERIVATIVE  
FINITE  
KEPPEN  
LYNCH  
PROBABILITY

VARIABLE

The first person to return this fun find completed to the *Scroll* room will receive a handsome prize. Only one person may claim the prize. Last months winners were **Mary Hayes, Caitlyn Redman** and **Stephanie Mack**.



# Cinco seis adiós: teacher to retire

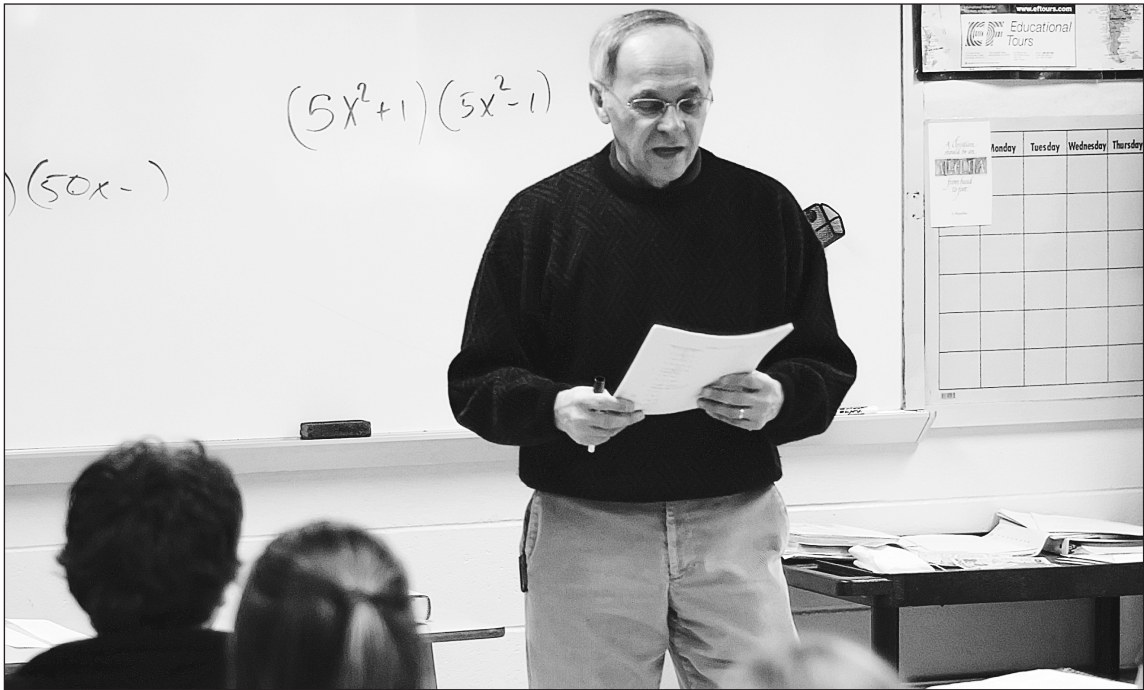
By Jameson Goetz  
Staff Writer

Imagine a world, or a classroom full of weekly exams, daily puns and numbers that don't exist. To some this dream may be a nightmare; those who have had the pleasure of being taught by Mr. Ray Cinco would disagree. Unfortunately, those who cannot say they have been taught by Cinco will never get that opportunity. Cinco is leaving the teaching profession at the end of this school year.

Cinco is finishing up his 24<sup>th</sup> year of teaching at O'Gorman High School. He currently teaches Algebra I, Advanced Algebra II, and precalculus. However, he has also taught a variety of math classes while at O'Gorman. Although Cinco has always been interested in math, it has not been his only interest.

"As a college freshman my declared major was math, but my sophomore year I found that the theoretical math classes were not for me," said Cinco. "My major then became political science."

With his political science degree in hand, Cinco enlisted in the United States Navy.



Calculus teacher Mr. Ray Cinco teaches his second period algebra class.

JOE KLEIN / KNIGHT SCROLL

"I spent the next twenty years in a variety of assignments from flying to instructing, both as a classroom and flight instructor," said Cinco.

While in the Navy, Cinco served in the Vietnam War. He was assigned to a squadron aboard an air craft carrier.

Cinco approached retirement from the Navy, and decided to try teaching. He began his teaching education while on recruiting duty in Sioux Falls. He entered a master's in education program at Augustana College. After earning his teaching certificate Cinco was a student teacher at Washington

High School. Cinco, however, was not finished with the military.

"My final assignment was with the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln," said Cinco. "This was where I decided to add some math credits to my teaching endorsement."

Cinco applied for a teaching position at O'Gorman High School when he left his position at the NROTC at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He was hired to teach contemporary world issues and government classes.

It wasn't until Mr. Kueter was hired as the activities director that Mr. Cinco asked to teach a math class. Cinco continued to teach C.W.I. and Algebra I for a few years, but he was eventually asked to teach only math.

Students in Cinco's classes have enjoyed a unique learning experience. Cinco's classes usually begin with a joke with a very witty punch line from "weapons of mass instruction" to "forest friars"

"Mr. Cinco shouldn't have to worry about money when he retires from O'Gorman," said Bridgid Hurley, who is a student in Mr. Cinco's precalculus class. "He could easily get a job as a stand up comic."

Cinco's life is as unique as his teaching career. His influence will continue to be upon the hundreds of students he taught.



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John Buchkaski, Michael Bruning, Cathy Mailloux, Brian Schulte, Seth Januschka on tenor sax.

## Jazz Band preps for great year

By Brad Wakefield  
Knight Life Editor

With the magazine drive over, the student body now has something to focus on, to admire. Every group or activity in the school may be interesting and fun, although, hardly any of the O’G activities seem to measure up to the standard of “cool.” There is, however, one group of students in band that defines cool. These cats are the quintessential essence of cool. The Jazz band began on Nov. 19 and is gearing up for not only competitions but also ways to

impress everyone else.

The first definition of “cool” on dictionary.com is “chilly.” This definition did not describe the jazz band at all.

The second meaning of the word was “calmly audacious” or “fashionable.” Anyone can see that this clearly describes the Jazz band. With their dark clothes and brass roaring the band exudes an aura of trendy carelessness.

The band is led by Mr. Jim Smith, AKA “Smitty,” and is quite smaller compared to marching band, pit band and concert band. This does not mean however

that they will give any less of a performance. The first practice was on Thursday, Nov 28 and the song selection appeared to be very promising.

It seems like whenever any of them have an instrument in their hands, they feel the need to play it all the time. This may be annoying to some, but in all actuality, the band is basically practicing. Many might think that the band members blow notes just to make noise while waiting for instruction from the conductor. Although, when Jazz band does that, it’s OK, because they wear cool fedoras.

## New coaches anchor debate

*O’Gorman debate captains take charge and lead team*

By Melissa Rushing  
Staff Writer

While some students may argue amongst themselves, the O’Gorman debaters have taken it to the next level. The debate season began early this month with the first competition on Nov. 3 under the direction of new coaches Mrs. Gwen Skar and Mrs. Kelly Brose. Team captains are seniors Sarah Barnett and Katie Jorgensen.

“Those two have inspired all of us with their two time placing at state debate and their great attitude which drives us all to success,” said junior Nick Sideras.

Debaters can compete in three different divisions: Policy, Lincoln Douglas and Public Forum. Each division has its own resolution (the issue that’s being debated) which the team must form both affirmative and negative positions on.

“I’ve learned a lot from debate, including the art of public speaking and how to argue logically,” said junior Tanya Kapoor

“[Debate] helps you present yourself and you learn how to develop opinions and defend your beliefs,” said Jorgensen.

While not a form of debate, some students also participate in the extemporaneous division at debate tournaments. In extemporaneous, students present their information on their own and give an opinion about a current event in either the United States or the world community.

A member of the National Forensic League, a national organization that directs high school speech events, the debate team meets twice a week to prepare for its season and upcoming competitions by brainstorming and researching the resolutions, practicing their speeches until near perfection and desperately trying to quell any nerves. The season will conclude in mid-March after 24 competitions.

Varsity debaters this year include Barnett, Jorgensen, Kapoor, Sideras and John Miller.

## Students have fun, learn through chess

By Jessica Davis  
Staff Writer

There is only one game founded on art, science and theory that increases mental prowess. This game, formally known as International or Western Chess, is composed of 64 boxes and 32 segregated pieces.

The rules used by the O’Gorman Chess Club are primarily the same as they were when they were revised in 1475. While the basis of the game is old, the fact remains that it is still a challenge.

O’Gorman Chess Club members meet once a week for a battle of the minds. Each time, challenges are made and completed. Almost every game leads to a student learning something new.

The club is very open, with as many as 15 students stopping in to play. There are about seven or eight students who regularly appear at Chess Club meetings every Wednesday from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. after school.

“Anyone is welcome to stop in

[and] play a game as often as they’d like,” said Chess Club Adviser Mrs. McQuade, “as long as they are able to fit it in their schedule.”

Chess Club has been helping young minds for over a decade.

“Each year,” said Mrs. McQuade, “we work with a group of cub scouts to teach them the basics of chess and help them earn their chess belt loop.”

**“Anyone is welcome to stop in [and] play a game as often as they’d like.”**

**-Sheila McQuade**

Each Wednesday, students step into G-17 and pair off to do battle through individual scrimmages.

Depending on the length of the game, a student could have more than one game completed by the end of the meeting.

In the end, O’Gorman finds that chess club is both educationally stimulating and helpful. Numerous studies have shown that playing chess aids students in developing their problem solving skills and memorization. What is most influential perhaps, is the fact that the skills learned in one game of chess can be applied to every other game of chess.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Oral Interpers revel after their long day of competition and display their awards.

## Interpers bring home superiors in every sense of the word

By Chris Kappen  
Activities Editor

Every year O’Gorman sends some of its best oral interpers to Huron in order to compete in the State Oral Interp Festival from Nov. 29 to Dec. 1. This year O’Gorman brought home many awards and honors. The categories of prose, drama, reader’s theater, duo, and poetry all received superiors.

The State Oral Interp Festival in Huron is the last competition of the first season. After this the

team will be cut down from 104 members to only 36 members for the second season. The second season is extremely competitive and has fewer categories. On Dec. 6, the team will be going to a large tournament in Des Moines, Iowa to compete. Schools from all over the country have gone there to compete, and for the past three years, O’Gorman has brought home a champion award.

“I am very blessed with a low maintance team,” said Interp coach

Ms. Teresa Fester. “We perform, practice and have a good time.”

The students who represented O’Gorman at state this year are Ngoc Thach in serious prose, Chloe Goldade in humor, Andy Thuringer in drama, Whitney Hartzell and Tyler Jacobsen in duo, Teresa Johnson in non-original oratory and Brody Allen in poetry. The Readers Theater consists of Brad Wakefield, Rachael Andersen Lauren Wolf and David Haney.



# Wrestlers embark on new season

By Brad Wakefield  
Knight Life Editor

For hundreds of years men have been fighting and wrestling to get what they want. However, in this century, all men want is a trophy. Wrestling has started and the team seems quite confident in getting what they want this year.

“There are no losers in wrestling, just those that don’t win,” said junior Peter Meyer.

The team has been preparing and practicing since summer and will continue to do such things as diet and lifting weights throughout the year. It would seem that weightlifting, however, is not the worst of preparing for the season. Most of the team takes a lesson

in dieting before and during the season. The wrestlers want to do well in their weight category but it proves difficult when every member on the team is used to eating six slices of pizza for dinner.

The competitive spirit is sure to match that of last year’s. A total of eleven wrestlers qualified for state the previous season with junior Robbie Hakl taking fifth place in his category. When speaking with the team, anyone would be able to see the determination to fulfill the higher expectations.

One can tell that the team and wrestling coach Mr. Jeff Gordon have not lost any talent this year. The team will begin competing soon, determined and driven to win.



JOE KLEIN / KNIGHT SCROLL

Chelsey Illg practices with the team before an upcoming game against R.C. Stevens.

# GBB takes aim

By Danny Isaacson  
Staff Writer

The girl’s basketball program over the years has been very successful. But the success doesn’t stop here as the girls get ready to gear up for another year.

Their three returning starters have had a big role in last year’s state tournament run. As you may have already known, the girls placed third overall in the state tournament last year, but were ranked first throughout the season.

**“Our expectations are always high. We will be fast and scrappy.”**

**-Makayla Grady**

But the expectations are not going to be altered this year.

“Our expectations are always set high,” said senior forward Makayla Grady. “We will be fast and scrappy.”

The team can not wait to get back to the court and show what they are made of. There are three returning starters this year. Seniors Makayla Grady and Melanie Peterson and junior Emily Schulte. “I can’t wait for all the great times with my girls,” said the junior Emily Schulte. “And all the dog pounds to come” (inside joke).

The girls opener will be held on Friday, Dec. 7 against the Raiders of Rapid City Stevens, tip off at 6:30 p.m. It will be a double header as the boys tip off at 8:00 p.m.



JOE KLEIN / KNIGHT SCROLL

Dance team members practice their routine.

# Second year dancers focus on competition

By Joe Klein  
Opinion Editor

“Can you do straight leg foutes?” asks co-dance team captain Felicia Winskunas.

“On a good day,” says team member Sanna Horsley.

Piles of paper marked up with formations lay scattered across the desk they hovered over. They are just two of the 21-member dance team deep in the middle of its second year.

Co-captains Winskunas, Margaret Free, and Katelyn O’Brian, as well as coach Susan Syverson-Derouchey lead the O’Gorman Dance team this year. Many of the members, ranging from freshmen to seniors, have no previous dance experience. They

practice twice a week to prepare for upcoming competitions.

Since August, the team has been working on their show, a mix of three different songs. Running about two minutes long, the team has performed the show a few times already, once at the home coming pep rally. The team’s choreographers, Winskunas, Free, and Lisa Peters, with input from their coach spent the beginning of the school year putting together the high-energy show.

2006 was the team’s debut year, and they did well in competitions placing second, third and fourth in various competitions around the region.

“We did decently last year,” said Winskunas, “But this year will be much better.”

# Young team building for success *Gymnasts bring youth to new season of competition*

By Kayla Frank  
Staff Writer

The O’Gorman gymnastics team is ready to begin their season. Coached for the second year by Coach Emily Cotton, the girls have been practicing and preparing since before the season even started.

On Nov. 29, the girls had their first meet against Yankton. The girls did very well individually and also as a team. As a team the girls pushed ahead by many points to earn first place. For the varsity getting first all around and first on the beam, floor and vault was senior Sarah Weidler. Getting second all around and first on bars was junior Hannah Statz. The O’Gorman J.V. gymnast also placed first, second and third.

“The team all worked really hard at our first meet,” said senior Sarah Weidler “It was really good to see how everyone has improved since last year and also how well the younger gymnast did. I’m happy with how everyone did and hopefully we can continue improving and winning!”

Sarah Weidler, who placed sixth in the state last year, is just one out of only five returning upperclassmen including seniors Amanda Francis,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Hannah Statz competes on the uneven bars.

Mercedes Leon, Beth Van Bressen and junior Hannah Statz. Most of these girls have been competing on the team since freshmen year and even eighth grade. But it’s not just a few upperclassmen on the team - there are also many sophomores, freshmen and even a few eighth graders.

“The gymnastics team is a pretty young team,” said Weidler “But we have all been working hard all summer and we are all ready to begin and end this year

with a bang!”

The team has been working since summer to raise money for their team. Since the gymnastics team has to pay for all their equipment used throughout the year, the team does many fundraising events, dress-down-days and even picked up trash after the football games.

They all hope to improve from their fifth place finish in state last year and to finish on top.



# McDreaming beyond the many obstacles and hurdles

By Tanya Kapoor  
Entertainment Editor

Overcoming obstacles and attaining success is something we all strive to do. In the entertainment industry, one such a person who has accomplished just that is Patrick Dempsey.

Dempsey stars in *Grey's Anatomy* as Dr. Derek Shepherd or Dr. McDreamy, as Dr. Meredith Grey and her friends call him. Recently, he has also appeared in many movies such as *Freedom Writers* and *Enchanted*.

However, his success did not come without hindrances. Dempsey was diagnosed with dyslexia at the age of twelve. With that, it is still hard for him to read

scripts, but Dempsey has learned to use memory to learn his lines.

During an interview with Barbara Walters, Dempsey revealed his feelings about his achievements. Most of all, he noted that he learned to persist and to rise above his dyslexia. Because of this hurdle, Dempsey has been able to motivate himself.

“It has given me a perspective of—you have to keep working,” said Dempsey during the show. “I have never given up.”

Dempsey’s first career was an amateur magician. His career as an actor started humbly. His first acting assignment was with the Maine Acting Company. He was cast in the play *On Golden Pond*.

During the 80s and 90s,

Dempsey was involved with many movies. None of them gained the public’s immediate attention.

It wasn’t until 2005 that Dempsey was cast in *Grey’s Anatomy*, which was then a midseason replacement.

With his fame, he has also been seen in many movies, such as the recent hit *Enchanted*.

Dempsey, now a household name, owes his success to his resolve and strength. His will to accomplish something despite his obstacles sets an example to all of us as individuals.

With all the negative examples of role models present in entertainment, Dempsey sets a strong example as a celebrity and as a person with his determination.



# Smart shopping, bargain bins save

By David Haney  
Sports Editor

I am a cheap guy. That is just the truth. I do not have to spend a whole lot of money to be satisfied.

This is a concept that people find hard to grasp. They do not realize that it doesn’t take \$700 to find a new outfit. Or that you can eat dinner on a daily basis for a minimal cost.

When looking for ways to curve spending habits, know that for everything you want to buy, there will be a deal. Whether it is good or bad is decided upon payment, but if you know what is a good deal, you can come out on top.

When looking for the next big deal, you must be sure to have standards. When making your standards, decide a maximum amount of money you are willing

to spend. If you have a reasonable standard and are fortunate enough to have common sense, shopping should work out for you.

Instead of running straight for the expensive stuff, look around and check the surroundings. Normally there is a discount rack. The rack is an amazing thing, and you may actually find some of those items you were willing to pay \$80 for last season for about \$20. To me, the discount rack is essential in getting the best bargains.

Now, that might be a hard concept to grasp and I was a little unwilling to believe it, but its amazing how just about every month Express or American Eagle has a bargain bin. I got a new polo for just ten dollars out of a cardboard box!

If you told me you bought a \$100 pair of jeans, I would laugh obnoxiously in your face, considering I grabbed an entirely

comfortable pair for \$25 off a discount rack.

Next comes food. I will eat a \$50 meal on special occasions, but honestly that’s not something that needs to be done on a weekly basis.

Just walking through the mall’s food court you can find a perfectly satisfying meal for a reasonable cost.

I chose Villa Pizza and wasn’t disappointed. I got an enormous slice of pizza, a breadstick and a pop for just about six dollars. This was more than enough to make me happy and satisfied.

With all the deals present in the Empire Mall, it is kind of hard to imagine people throwing around money like they do. Just look beyond all the glitz and glamour of the regular priced items and maybe save some money. The discount rack can save you a fortune.



PRESS PHOTO

*Incantation* by Alice Hoffman teaches readers the importance of defending their beliefs amidst persecution.

# Incantation casts a spell

By Billie Jo Kubat  
Staff Writer

Everyone has secrets in life. In the case of Estrella De Madrigal, her secrets could cost her life.

“I thought I knew the world. I thought I knew myself. I thought I knew my dearest friend. But I knew nothing at all,” said Estrella in *Incantation*.

By reading the title *Incantation* by Alice Hoffman, a person would think it is about a coven of witches. It is actually about a girl named Estrella de Madrigal and her struggles.

The book takes place during the Spanish Inquisition, a period in Medieval times when non-Catholics were persecuted. Estrella’s world is shaken up once more when Jewish books are burned and the town she lives in is thrown in to a scene of mass mayhem.

She has to find strength from within when she learns the life she has been living was a mask of who she really is.

Estrella is fronted with danger when her best friend Catalina turns her and her family over to the king.

*Incantation* tells the story of many people who were hiding

Jews. It opens the eyes to how people of different religions were treated from the 1500s to the 1800s.

*Incantation* has the power to pull you back in time and make you feel like everything that happens in the book is happening to you at the same time.

The book represents and portrays love, life and faith. It shows how people need to stand up and fight for what they believe.

*Incantation* is an easy read and will keep the reader entertained to the very end.

Book: *Incantation*

Author:  
Alice Hoffman

Publisher:  
Little, Brown  
and Company

Pages: 166

Price: \$16.99



Photo Survey

Magazine sales mania disrupts and annoys

By Joe Klein  
Opinion Editor

As an incentive for magazine sales, which teacher’s head would you shave?



**Charlotte Michels:**  
“Mr. Lorang, just to see him without the white crown of glory.”



**Kristina Johnson:**  
“Mrs. Benson because she wouldn’t give me a donut.”



**Dillon LeBrun:**  
“Mr. Lynch for the flat top. ”



**Josh Fischer:**  
“Mr. Van Engen ‘cause he gives us too much homework.”

By Melissa Rushing  
Staff Writer

With chants of “beat Fester” echoing down the halls, the oppressive fog of magazine sales season descended upon the school. While some may revel in the sulfurous atmosphere, those not shaken by temporary insanity prefer to break out the old gas mask and rubber gloves when handling subscriptions. Sure, what’s wrong with supporting the school? And reading magazines is fun, but there’s something about being publicly humiliated for not soliciting enough money that just rubs some people the wrong way. Encouraging fund raising is good in theory, but magazine sales also promote haughty advisory rivalries and gaudy locker decorations (albeit they do

highlight OG’s poetry prowess). The highest selling advisory gets a major ego boost, but the low sellers are condemned to terroristic magazine threats and a year of shame. Maybe their adviser should just be sacrificed while we’re at it. Apart from avoiding a wag of the finger and some good old fashioned public scorn, there is no real motivation to sell magazines. Students receive no immediate gratification from the magazine harvest they have helped to reap and sow. The least the administration could do is have everyone’s name put on tiles in the new school in gratification for contributing 1/700 of 1 percent for a building a fourth of the students will never use. What have students to look forward to during magazine sales besides its conclusion? Why, a

hoo-rah meeting in a hot gym where random people try to pep them up about door-to-door salesmanship and “fabulous prizes” that break in the time it takes to return to class. Speaking of class, what time is each class during the magazine drive? This and many other questions arise out of the disoriented schedule and system. Do I have to go to a class meeting today? What’s my reward for reaching goal? For how long can I dress down? Is today a turn-in day? Will my toes be cut off if I don’t sell \$125 worth of shiny paper? Students are suckered into selling magazines and reaching 100% participation because no one wants to have to admit, “I have failed my class. Because of me, they can’t wear their pajamas to school for three weeks.” That being said, does anyone want to renew their subscription to *Time*?

Stairway therapy for all

By Ngoc Thach  
Editor-in-Chief

I love the O’Gorman stairs. The skip and a half it takes to get up every stair has made this landmark extremely endearing to my heart. Sadly though, these stairs will soon be bulldozed, demolished and smashed into millions of little pieces and we will never get to walk/skip up them again. Many say that these stairs are hideous, annoying and simply just awkward but I say who doesn’t love those stairs? The only awkward thing about the stairs are the scenes of overly-confident students bounding stairs two

at a time and proceeding to fall flat on their faces. Let’s embrace these stairs before they’re gone. Repeat after me:  
1. The stairs are my friend.  
2. The stairs are pretty.  
3. I do not feel like someone is laughing at me as I walk up the stairs.  
After these affirmations are repeated give the hand rail a little Purel, place your hand on the rail, connect with the rail and shout I love you stairs and I’m so glad... I mean sad (Freudian slip) that you’re going to be gone in two years! Try not to cry as you tear yourself away from the endearing stairs, there is always tomorrow.

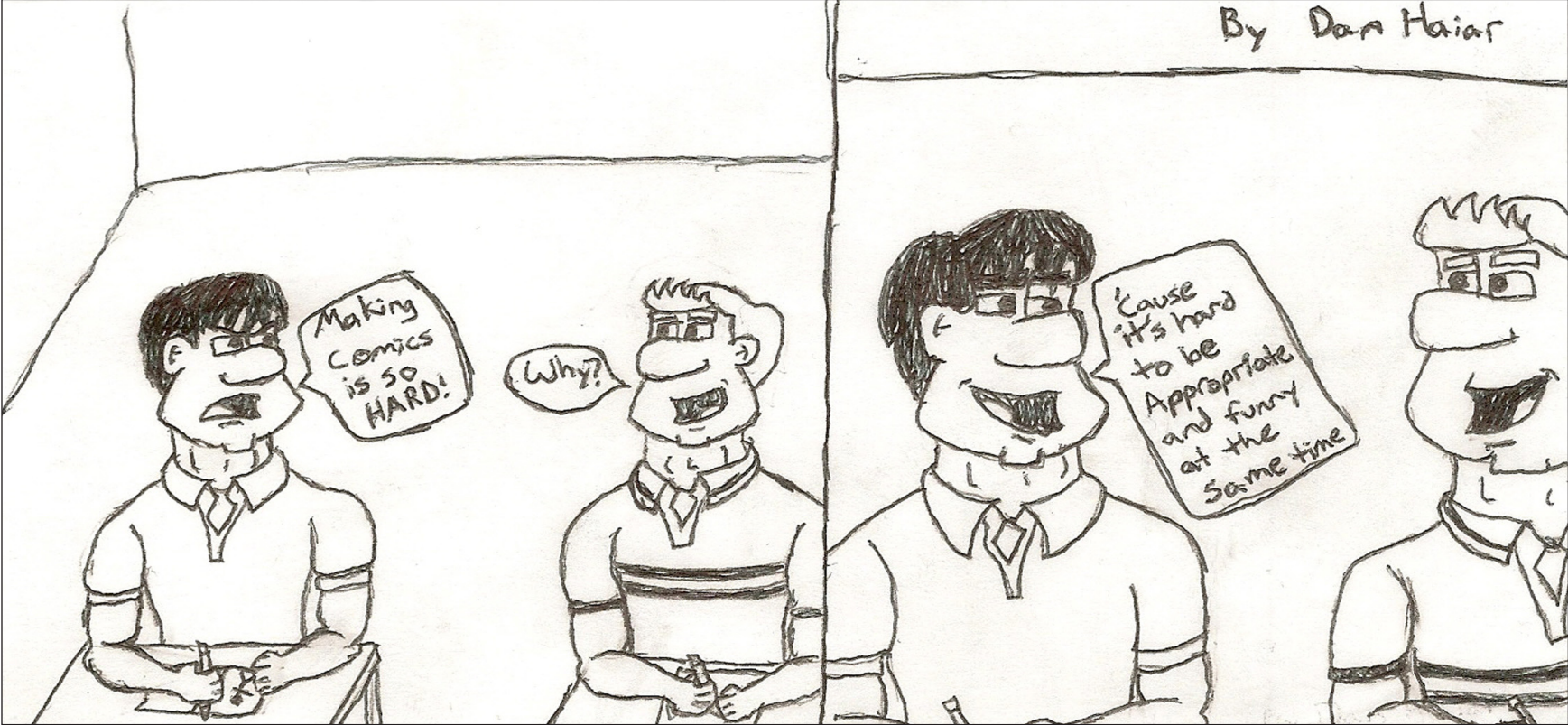
Stair Facts

-There are 20 steps leading to the main entrance.

-Each step is 4 feet long, 16 feet wide, and 4.5 inches tall.

-For the average person, the steps are not big enough for two steps and not small enough for one.

-Originally, there was supposed to be a canopy over the stairs. The feature was cut due to expenses.





# Construction

Continued from page 1

patience and know that we have to make sacrifices because the end result will be worth it.”

G-Wing will be torn down when the three academic wings are completed by the fall of 2009. It will be replaced with a new performing arts center. The performing arts center will include 1,000 seats with aisles.

It will be used for the performing arts and for school liturgies. After the new performing arts center is done, the current auditorium will be renovated and used for competitive cheer, gymnastics, wrestling and the dance team. It will be known as an activities center.

McEneaney field will have new field turf added and a larger track so that it may accommodate the rising number of students in sporting activities.

Ideas for the layout of the new school came when Mr. Groos, Mr. Kueter, Dr. Lorang and Mr. Winkels went to the Twin Cities in the summer of 2006 to look at three high schools. In addition, they surveyed Sioux Falls Christian and Marshall, Minn.

“Our main goal for the school building was to enhance safety, to reduce travel time to the classrooms and to create controlled entrances,” said Groos. “It was Dr. Lorang who actually came up with the three-finger wing approach.”

In order to make the school building safe,



WINKELS GROUP

The front of the school will no longer feature the famous stairs.

er, the administrative office will be located in front of the foyer. With that, the administration will be able to see everyone that walks in through the front doors.

The community has been very appreciative of the project. On Nov. 21, Avera McKennan donated \$10 million to the project. Avera McKennan emphasized the value of education and health care with their donation.

In addition to the community, the alumni have been very encouraging of the change.

“Everyone that we have talked to has supported our plans to develop O’Gorman’s facilities. They realize that with better facilities, O’Gorman will continue to compete with the other schools in the area as well as nationally,” said Groos.

O’Gorman, as always, will continue to garner creativity with the new layout and the performing arts center. Although the building will undergo change and growth, it will continue to be one that is faithful to its alumni and students.

# Magazines

Continued from page 1

“If we as a class average two hundred dollars per person by the end of the drive, my flattop comes off,” said Lynch to the junior class.

Even though all advisers cannot (or rather choose not to) buzz their hair, many have established traditions of offering candy and coercion.

“It is a tradition for me to distribute PEZ dispensers,” said Fester. “I support my troops a hundred percent with food, fun, locker signs and blackmail.”

In contrast, some advisers chose self-motivation and winning as a goal and incentive to sell more magazines.

“My goal was to have every person get involved and to feel proud of their accomplishment,” said Mrs. Reed. “[My students] were self motivated and inspired each other.”

Students also receive numerous incentives from the school to sell. The promises of open campus, dress down days and commission lure many to knock on their neighbors’ doors and to encourage their relatives to renew their subscriptions.

“I think that motivation and incentives make students, especially freshmen, excited for the magazine drive,” said Ms. Michelle Shields, the leader for the freshmen.

Despite the myriads of incentives offered to sell magazines, many students sell for the competition or for a personal goal rather than the perks and bonuses that the school or an advisory offers.

“I couldn’t have open campus this year because I missed too many days of school for my knee surgery,” said junior Bridgid Hurley. “But, I still sold approximately \$2,270 worth of magazines.”

The magazine drive this year continued to encourage many teacher and student rivalries in order to promote the growth of O’Gorman.

The success of the event is clear from the money the students manage to raise and the dedication that teachers and students alike have for the event. Certainly, there is no other time when the school’s commitment to a common goal is stronger.

MOST STUDENTS PREFER TO KISS NON-SMOKERS \*

\*some don't care what they kiss.

O'Gorman T.A.T.U.

